

# HAPPENINGS IN AND ABOUT TOWN

## BOARD TO REPORT ON LIGHT QUESTION

Mayor Keller Appoints Five Men to Investigate Municipal Plant Project.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

more over-head expenses, including a variety of more or less questionable expenditures that municipal plants do not have.

"It is my wish that this committee make a fair investigation of municipal lighting, visiting such municipal plants as is possible. After the feasibility and practicability of establishing a plant is thoroughly investigated it should then be generally discussed by the taxpayers of this city. If, after the people become thoroughly informed on the subject, they then wish a plant constructed it will be 'up to them' to decide the question through an election."

Will Need Small Levy.

"If it is deemed advisable to establish a municipal plant, a small levy should be made for the purpose. In the discussion of this important question the discussion should be based upon facts and not upon a number of misleading statements. This is one of the reasons for appointing the above named, highly respected, and practical gentlemen on this committee. These men, who have already consented to act on this committee, will render a valuable service to our present and future citizens by thoroughly investigating this subject."

"The minds of some of our leading citizens have already been poisoned on the question of municipal ownership by a magazine called 'Public Service' published in the interest of the private electric plants and sent always free though there is no doubt as to who is paying for it. It seems whenever anything is said locally about a municipal lighting plant it immediately brings forth such intense opposition to our local electric company and its friends that it leads one to believe that a municipal plant would be entirely feasible. Some of our people will say that municipally owned plants would be all right if politics were kept out of the management. I agree that it should be operated free from politics and believe there is less politics in the average city plant than in privately owned utilities."

Quotes Professor.

"On the subject of private utilities activities in politics I wish to quote Charles A. Beard, professor of politics in Columbia university, New York city, from his most splendid book, 'American City Government.' 'Street railway companies usually find it to their advantage to join with the liquor interests in keeping cities wide open. Gas and electric companies also have an interest in wide-open policies on account of the extra large consumption of gas and electricity in the glaring resorts which usually run into the latest hours possible.'

"My observation of utilities in politics is very limited but I do know that in our last city election all the private utilities were solidly against the ticket that stood for law enforcement. Quoting further from this authority on page 194 in the same book, 'Corporations whose affairs will not bear daylight often conciliate newspaper by extensive advertising.' In regard to the above statement I have no doubt that some corporations do attempt to conciliate newspapers by extensive advertising and by misleading them but I still have confidence in the honesty of most of our newspapers and believe it is their aim to work for the best interests of the community."

Plants Are Successful.

"I have never visited a city with either a municipal water plant or lighting plant where the citizens were not proud of their ownership. Some things have recently been said about the Ft. Wayne plant. It seems in spite of all the misleading statements which have been made concerning this plant their people are unanimously in favor of it. They estimate that it is saving them at least \$100,000 annually. I believe a municipal plant in this city would save us a like amount. It might be necessary to tax ourselves for a few years as much as we are now taxing ourselves for track elevation but if it eventually saved us a hundred thousand dollars annually would not it pay? Cities cannot well afford to look to the future for 25, 50, 100 and 200 years. Some of our largest cities are debt-ridden and overburdened with expenses on account of not having planned for the future."

Points to Water Works.

"So far as municipal ownership being a bug-a-boo I would say that one need not leave our city to find a splendid example of a municipally owned and operated plant, our municipal water works being a good example. Would anyone advocate selling our municipal water plant to a private corporation on account of its being a failure. It is at least earning enough so that it has not been necessary to levy any tax for its support for a number of years or been necessary to make any charge to the city proper for the service rendered by the use of hydrants for fire protection, etc."

"Our citizens have paid less for water than is paid in cities having privately owned plants and, further, our water plant has furnished water free for fire protection and other municipal purposes. The local electric

plant is bonded to its full physical value while our municipal plant is bonded to only about one-fourth of its value. If our local water plant was owned by a private corporation we would be paying out more than \$50,000 annually for municipal purposes alone and our taxes would be still higher."

## DEATHS

JOSEPH SAMUEL LINARD.

Joseph Samuel Linard, 49 years old, 811 Cleveland av., died Tuesday evening at 6:40 o'clock following an illness of one year. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Emma Linard, and one daughter, Mrs. Edward Motta of this city; two sisters, Mrs. Martin Dudley of Duncannon, Pa., and Mrs. Jennie Shotts of Lucknow, Pa. He was born in Duncannon July 6, 1864, and came to this city 20 years ago from his birthplace. He married Miss Emma Wert, June 2, 1888, at Duncannon. Linard was employed by the Singer corporation as a finisher.

Private funeral services will be held from the residence Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. A. H. Keck will officiate. Burial will be in Riverside cemetery. The remains may be viewed Thursday evening and Friday morning.

MRS. EMMA JONES.

Mrs. Emma Jones, 58 years old, died Wednesday morning at 5:30 o'clock at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Lauretta Faust, 2621 Kenwood av. She was born in Murfreesboro, Ill., on Feb. 5, 1857, and has lived in this city for eight years, coming here from Poplar Bluffs, Mo. Besides her daughter, here, she is survived by three other children, Mrs. Grace Brothers, Harry Burlew of Poplar Bluffs, and Blaine Jones of Springfield, Mo., and a brother and sister, Mrs. Mary Cox of California, and Mr. Thomas, of Galesburg, Ark.

## LOCAL PEOPLE ARE ASKED TO LEND AID

Society Hopes to be Able to Purchase Longfellow Birth-Place.

Several persons of prominence in South Bend have received letters from Marian Longfellow of Portland, Me., vice president of the International Longfellow society, soliciting their membership in the society in order to assist in the movement on foot to preserve the birthplace of Longfellow at Portland. The society is also disposing of a few handsome engravings of the portrait of the poet, each signed by Longfellow himself as well as by the artist. These will be sold in individuals, organizations or institutions at \$250 each. The assessed valuation of the property which the society wishes to buy is \$7,400, though its purchasing price is much higher.

Woodrow Wilson is one of the honorary presidents of the organization while the active officers are A. C. Jackson, of Portland, president; Mrs. Edward L. Murfey, Chicago, vice president; Marian Longfellow, Portland, vice president; Maude E. Jones, Chicago, secretary; Joseph Wood, Portland, treasurer.

## USED REVOLVER TO ILLUSTRATE HIS SONG

Ralph Fries is Fined \$10 and Costs by Judge Warner in City Court.

Attempts by Ralph Fries to make a cowboy song more graphic by flourishing a revolver, resulted in his receiving a fine of \$10 and costs when he appeared before Judge Warner Wednesday morning to answer a charge of carrying concealed weapons. According to the prosecutor, Fred Hyde, a saloon keeper on Lincoln way E., gave the young man the revolver to illustrate a western song Fries was singing in the saloon.

"That is fine business," declared the judge, "Hyde is at the present time under arrest for selling liquor to minors. He gets his customers drunk, provides them with guns and is a man of moral standing."

Fries said he had no intention of using the gun and the judge replied that "drunken men have no intentions."

## LOCAL CHICKENS WIN

George W. Kinzie Captures Prizes at Battle Creek.

George W. Kinzie, owner of the Kinzie poultry yards, who had six entries in the Battle Creek, Mich., poultry show, captured five prizes in the single comb brown leghorn division. He entered two cockerels in the contest, and the birds took first and second, while his pullets captured third, fourth and fifth prize, the last entry not placing in the money.

## KEEP DETAILS SECRET

Rotarians Will Gather at Oliver Hotel Thursday Night.

Owing to the annual Christmas party of the Rotary club at the Oliver hotel Thursday night, the weekly Wednesday luncheon of the club was not held. Nearly 200 couples are expected at Thursday night's event, the details of which are being kept secret by the committee in charge.

## ESCAPING GAS IS CAUSE OF DEATH

Harry C. Lester, N. Main St., is Thought to Have Been Victim of Accident.

Shortly after 8 o'clock Wednesday morning roomers above the Avery & Hull Furniture store on N. Main st., discovered gas issuing from a room occupied by Harry C. Lester, employee of the Lake Shore railroad, and when police officers broke open the door, Lester was found dead. The pipe from a small gas heater had become disconnected in some manner and Lester was asphyxiated. Coroner T. J. Swantz was called to the scene and after a preliminary examination discredited the suicide theory as did friends of Lester. The general indications were that the death was accidental.

Lester worked at the Lake Shore freight office and was last seen about 7 o'clock Tuesday evening when he was on his way to supper. Indications were that he had died early in the night as the body was rigid and cold when found at 8 o'clock.

Papers and letters found in Lester's room indicated that he has relatives in Fredonia, N. Y., and Coroner Swantz is making an effort to locate these people. No relatives are known to have lived here. When the gas was found escaping from the room Officers Moore and Cutting answered the summons. Lester's body has been taken to the Jones morgue to await word from relatives.

## DIVORCE IS TRAGEDY STATES JUDGE FORD

Justice Makes Comments When Settling Case—Little Doing in Courts.

Justice in the local courts is moving slowly this week. In the circuit, the Pere Marquette railroad case against John Young, contractor, venued here from Laporte county, has engaged the attention of the court, while in superior, attorneys evidently taking advantage of the holidays, have failed to prosecute cases.

In the superior court Wednesday morning, arrangements were just being made by two interested attorneys to try a divorce case in the afternoon. Judge Ford, after taking a recess, said to the lawyers:

"Always glad to hear cases, gentlemen. The court will sit at 1:30 o'clock."

He then turned about to the row of barristers inside the bar and invited them all to attend the proceedings. To newspaper men standing nearby, he extended a similar invitation.

"You're welcome to come, if you can find anything funny in a divorce case. I can't. Divorces are not a comedy—divorce is a tragedy, the tragedy of life," he repeated as he left the court room for the chambers.

## MONEY TO BE TURNED BACK BY SAFETY BOARD

Several Departments Failed to Spend All Funds Appropriated.

Expenditures of various city departments under the supervision of the board of safety were less than the amounts appropriated and a balance of \$5,946.47 will be returned into the general fund according to the reports submitted to the board. Appropriations for the year were: Police miscellaneous—Appropriation, \$3,827.87; expenditures, \$3,101.47; returned, \$726.40. Police pay roll—Appropriation, \$59,140; expenditures, \$57,049; returned, \$2,090.25. Fire pay roll—Appropriation, \$62,120; expenditures, \$62,337.72; returned, \$215.72. Fire miscellaneous—Appropriation, \$16,390.88; expenditures, \$9,409.22; returned, \$6,981.66. Weights and measures department—Appropriation, \$1,406; expenditures, \$1,239.58; returned, \$166.02. Electrical miscellaneous—Appropriation, \$1,375; expenditures, \$1,360.05; returned, \$14.94. Electrical underground—Appropriation, \$1,000; expenditures, \$215.72; returned, \$784.28. Electrical pay roll appropriation of \$3,000, and board, clerk, sealer and surgeon salaries appropriation of \$4,100, all used.

## CITY BONDS ARE SOLD

Chicago Firm With \$635 Premium Successful Bidder.

City Controller U. G. Manning announced Wednesday that the Harris Trust and Savings bank of Chicago is the successful bidder for the \$25,000 in water works bonds issued by the city. Five bids were placed for the bonds and as the Chicago concern offered the highest premium that bid was accepted. The terms of the sale allows the city accrued interest and a \$635 premium. The bonds will be dated Jan. 2, 1916.

Four Indianapolis concerns bid for the bonds. The concerns and premiums offered follow: Breed, Elliott and Harrison, \$555; Fletcher American National bank, \$407; E. M. Campbell & Sons, \$375; Miller & Co., \$210.

## PAPERS ARE MISSING; CASE IS CONTINUED

Suit of O'Neil vs. Hudson Has Been Before Courts For Three Years.

Because the complaint papers are lost in the case of William J. O'Neil vs. Millie Hudson, a continuance was taken Wednesday in superior court until Friday. The suit involves a land contract.

The case is three years old. O'Neil secured a judgment against the defendant on a default in 1913, it being taken on the last day of the term about 5 o'clock. In order to get the judgment set aside, it was necessary for Millie Hudson to file a complaint asking that the judgment be set aside. This was done and the superior court decided in favor of Millie Hudson.

O'Neil took the case to the supreme court. They upheld the decision in the lower court in setting aside the judgment and remanded the case back for trial. It was set down for Wednesday and preliminary preparations gotten under way for hearing the evidence, when it was discovered that the papers were missing. Judge Ford granted a continuance until the time when, if the papers do not reappear, an order will be issued, the court said, for a substitute complaint.

## NEWS OF INTEREST TO POLISH CITIZENS

BANQUET TONIGHT.

Arrangements have been completed for the banquet to be given in honor of the 25th anniversary of the ordination into the priesthood of Father Anthony Zubowicz, C. S. C., pastor of St. Hedwige's parish. The banquet will be held at the parish hall Wednesday night.

According to present indications more than 400 persons will be present.

## FUNERAL.

MRS. VICTORIA MROCKIEWICZ.

The funeral of Mrs. Victoria Mrockiewicz, who died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Praxed Witkowska, 2117 W. Linden av., after a long illness, was held Wednesday morning from the St. Stanislaus Polish Catholic church. Rev. Roman Marchinski, C. S. C., officiated. Burial was in the St. Joseph cemetery.

## PERSONALS.

Miss Elinor Wozniak of Michigan City is guest of Mrs. Elizabeth Beckiewicz, 117 S. Laurel st.

Benjamin Kazmierkowski, 1038 W. Division st., returned from Chicago Tuesday evening, where he has been for the past few days.

Miss Anna Wiczorkiewicz of Chicago is visiting her friends, Mrs. Frank Drejer, 1418 W. Washington av.

Vaclav Balloun, 1032 W. Division st., has returned home from a few days' visit in Chicago.

Miss Angela Gadzik of Cleveland is a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Miller, 2237 W. Linden av.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Krafczuk of Michigan City, who were guests for a few days of Mrs. Theophila Blach, 1261 W. Colfax av., left Wednesday for Elkhart.

Leonard Kranicki has gone to Detroit after a business visit here.

Arthur Silber, S. Scott st., will leave Wednesday afternoon for St. Louis to spend a two weeks' vacation.

Mrs. William Sloboda, 248 N. Jackson, will leave today for Detroit to spend New Year's with her daughter, Mrs. John Nowakowski.

Mrs. Bessie Smolarska and Miss Valeria Manson of Chicago visited Tuesday and Wednesday with John Wagner, 802 N. Olive st.

Louis Tylczynski has left for an extended business trip to Toledo, Cleveland and New York.

## CASE GIVEN TO JURY

Suit Against Railroad Was Venued From Laporte.

After hearing evidence for more than a week in the case of the Pere Marquette railroad, Dudley E. Waters and Paul H. King, receivers, vs. G. Young, Laporte contractor, in circuit court, the case was to be given to the jury late this afternoon. Instructions were prepared during the morning and early in the afternoon. The Pere Marquette Co. is seeking to collect \$1,100 demurrage for cars, containing macadam for a road Young built, stored on its lines. Young seeks a similar amount on a cross-complaint for the costs of a sidetrack which he says he built at his own expense for which the railroad company never paid although they promised to do so.

The case was venued here from Laporte county and represents months of litigation.

## SUE TO COLLECT.

Clarence Elliott, was sued in circuit court Wednesday by William P. Kelley and Herbert J. Lederer, doing business under the name of the Insurance Department of the American Trust Co., for \$14.76, due on plate glass insurance.

PLENTY OF GRIP.

COLUMBUS, Ind., Dec. 29.—Columbus has a population of 10,000. Doctors say there are 1,500 cases of grip here today.

Read NEWS-TIMES Want Ads

## RIVER PARK

Miss Edith Franks of Albion and Miss Jessie Wideman of Rome City, arrived here Tuesday evening for a few days' visit with Miss Mattie Bowman, 3122 Mishawaka av.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Allen and daughter, Leona, of N. Sixth st., returned Tuesday from a visit in Michigan. They attended a Christmas dinner and reunion of the Dukeshire family at the home of Mrs. Allen's father, Henry Dukeshire at Benton Harbor. Thirty-five members were present.

Mrs. J. N. Holemn, N. Sixth st., was hostess to a dinner party Tuesday evening. Frank Holemn of Indiana Harbor was an out-of-town guest.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward McFall and son of N. Eighth st., are visiting relatives and friends at Benton Harbor, Mich.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Lumburg and family have returned from a visit at Chicago.

John Bookwalter and Miss Elinor Murphy will spend New Year's with Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Wolfe, S. Seventh st.

Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Bussert left Wednesday for Rochester where they will spend New Year's.

Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Swalley, S. Thirtieth st., have gone to Walker for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. A. Cunningham.

Mr. and Mrs. Haake, Mishawaka av., have returned from Michigan City, where they spent Christmas.

Mrs. Raymond Hyde and son, Donald, of Eddy st., have gone to Elkhardt to spend New Year's with relatives and friends.

Miss Ruth Harrison, Sixth st., who has been suffering from an attack of appendicitis for several days, was removed to St. Joseph hospital, Mishawaka, Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Vandenhoeck of Chicago have been guests of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vandenhoeck of S. Fourteenth st.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Soice, Mishawaka av., are visiting relatives in Plymouth.

Mrs. O. E. Rogers of Smith st., has been ill the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Lumburg of Pleasant st., have returned from a visit at Chicago.

Edward Rogers was in Goshen Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Parsons of Edwardsburg, Mich., and Mrs. Ellen Hardy of Granite City, Ill., were Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. Sibley, Mishawaka av.

John Taber, Jr., is visiting his grandmother, Mrs. Sarah Taber, at Plymouth.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Frudy and daughter, Florence, of Hammond are guests of Mr. and Mrs. Schuyler Hemminger.

Mrs. A. R. Sackman was in Niles Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward DeBuck will spend New Year's at Warsaw.

Mrs. Mary Jawalska of San Antonio, Texas, has been spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Wrotnowski, S. Seventeenth st.

Miss Marie Holtem has returned from a visit in Michigan.

Mrs. Otto Dice, who has been ill at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Shank, Mishawaka av., is recovering and will return to her home in Chicago Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Albin and son, Warren, of Chicago, and Miss Lydia Albin of Teegarden motored here Tuesday and are guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Brooks, N. Eleventh st.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Cormican, of the Elmer and Ermargard Cormican and Vernon Cormican and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Zimmer and children returned from Plymouth Tuesday, where they spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Chaney.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Cormican of S. Eighth st. left Tuesday for a week's visit with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reed near Bourne.

Thomas E. Wiseman will leave Thursday for a week's visit with relatives at Chicago and Elgin, Ill.

## REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

From the Records of the Indiana Title & Loan Co.

Andrew Yoder and wife to Walter G. Maurer, lot 18 South Side addition, \$290.

Mina Lindley to Forest Ritter and wife, lot 20 in Lindley's 1st addition, \$900.

Wickizer-Bondurant Co. to Warren H. Hullinger and wife, lot 103 Bowman's 5th addition, \$400.

Newton H. Lennhart to Jesse I. Renaberger, land in Penn township, \$3,300.

The Farmers' Securities Co. to Alma A. Smith, lots 25 and 26, block 1, Bechtel's plat of Wyatt, Ind., \$500.

Joe O. Plummer and wife to Jesse J. Wilson, lot 3 block 2, Uelrey's addition to Lakeville, \$500.

## FORMER MISSION BURNS

Children Are Taken Out of Building Without Injury.

BRADFORD, Pa., Dec. 29.—The McKean county home at Dorkela, formerly the Beacon Light mission, an institution conducted by the county children aid society was burned to the ground today. Mrs. John Stark, the matron, succeeded in getting all the 33 children out of the building without injury.

The home was without fire protection. Help summoned from Bradford saved adjoining property. The children were taken care of at homes in the neighborhood.

## GIRL WILL MAKE FIGHT FOR ESTATE

Miss Gertrude Claypool Wants \$2,000,000—Will Contest Uncle's Will.

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NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Miss Gertrude Claypool, 153 Park av., this city, is to contest the will of her uncle, John W. Bookwalter, who died in Cincinnati last October.

Mr. Bookwalter, a turbine manufacturer in Cincinnati, was a candidate for governor on the democratic ticket in 1881. When he died he left an estate variously estimated at from \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000.

Mrs. Claypool, the mother of Miss Gertrude Claypool, was his favorite sister. When Mrs. Claypool died she was buried by Mr. Bookwalter with all her diamonds and other jewelry, estimated at the time to be worth half a million dollars.

Mr. Bookwalter died last October. When his will was read it was found that his entire fortune had been bequeathed to his two brothers and one sister. The sister lives in this city. Miss Claypool, however, refused tonight to give her name or address. One of the brothers lives in Springfield, O., and the other in Iowa.

No mention was made in the will of Mrs. Claypool. To her daughter, Miss Gertrude Claypool, the aged millionaire left \$100,000.

When seen in her apartment in Park av. this evening, Miss Claypool, who is about 35 years old, was reticent.

"There was absolutely no reason for my uncle not mentioning my mother in his will," she declared. "She was his favorite sister and he was exceptionally fond of her. I was amazed when the will was read to find that I had been cut off with \$100,000. I believe that undue influence was exerted over my uncle after the death of my mother."

"I believe that, as my mother's heir, I am entitled to her share of the estate, which should amount to about \$2,000,000. I expect within a few days to file an action against the executors. It has not been definitely decided what nature this action shall take."

Miss Claypool was born in Springfield, O., and lived there for the greater part of her life. Her mother died several years before the will of her uncle was executed. At that time it was supposed that Mrs. Claypool would receive her full share of the estate.

## COL. ROOSEVELT TAKES FLING AT PACIFISTS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

predicted by Senor Benito Javier Perez-Verde of Mexico. This court would serve as a pattern for eventual similar courts in Europe and elsewhere, he said.

Interest in the many meetings today centered in that of the American civic association presided over by Miss Margaret Wilson, and before which she and Lady Aberdeen, wife of the former lord lieutenant of Ireland, will speak.

## BERNHARDT IS IN PARIS

Actress Says Reports of Her Illness Were False.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, the famous French actress, who has recently been reported very ill, arrived here today from Bordeaux.

Mme. Bernhardt was looking exceedingly well when asked how she felt she replied:

"Why, I am fit as a fiddle. Reports that I was seriously ill were absolutely false. I am leaving for London Friday to fill a theatrical engagement."

## WILL RETIRE ON PENSION

G. W. Davis With Pennsylvania More Than 50 Years.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 29.—Announcement that George W. Davis, general freight agent of the Vandallia railroad, a part of the Pennsylvania system, would retire Jan. 1 on a pension was made today. Mr. Davis has been with the Pennsylvania system more than 50 years.

## MILITIA WILL USE SHIP

Battleship Oregon Is Assigned to Duty in California.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The battleship Oregon which made the famous "around the Horn" cruise at the outbreak of the Spanish American war today assigned to the use of the California naval militia by Sec'y of the Navy Daniels. The Oregon will be placed at the disposal of the California militia Feb. 1.

## CAPTIVES WELL TREATED

Two Americans Are Held by Bulgarian Army.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The state department received advice from Sofia this afternoon that Mrs. Walter Farwell of Chicago, and Dr. B. C. Forbes of Boston, who were captured by Bulgarian military forces at Monastir, Serbia, are well, and are being well treated by the Bulgarian military authorities.

## NEARLY FROZEN.

LOGANSPORT, Ind., Dec. 29.—Charles Coon of Wabash was found nearly frozen in a box car by a section laborer. Both legs may be lost.